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Korean Affairs Report

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1 November 1983

KOREAN AFFAIRS REPORT

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INTER-KOREAN AFFAIRS

KOREA HERALD ON N. KOREAN EXPORT OF 'TERRORISM'

SK120232 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Pyongyang's Terrorism"]

[Text] It is no secret that North Korea has been engaged in the export of violent revolutions to promote what it calls an "international revolutionary movement." More than 60 countries have been made the targets of Pyongyang's export tactics, the majority of those in the African and Middle East regions. Not all of Pyongyang's involvements in insurgent campaigns in those countries have remained undetected and North Korean operatives have been ousted on numerous occasions.

According to intelligence sources, more than 5,000 people from some 35 countries received guerrilla training in the north during the 1966-82 period. The Pyongyang regime has apparently undertaken such ventures to become a champion of international revolution to build an "international solidarity," which, in its eyes, is required to realize its professed goal of communizing the entire Korean peninsula. By all indications, Pyongyang seems to be more desperate than before to translate its objectives into reality. Its tactics have recently become much more blatant.

The Rangoon massacre, in which 16 Korean Government officials were killed and 15 other people wounded in a bomb blast Sunday, was certainly the product of a plot masterminded by the Pyongyang communists. We have no doubt, on the basis of so many unmistakable clues, that the incident was linked to a heinous scheme of Pyongyang against the life of President Chon Tu-hwan, who narrowly escaped harm.

If our memory serves us correctly, the brutal incident, in which four cabinet ministers and many entourage members were killed while accompanying their chief executive on a state visit overseas, is unprecedented anywhere. What has generally been considered unconceivable either in the norm of conscience of a civilized society was rather blind-sided by the North Korean communists. The shock and anger over the Sunday atrocity were so enormous for us who experienced an earlier brutality perpetrated by the Soviets in the shooting down of a Korean Air Lines passenger plane, killing all 269 persons aboard, only a little over a month ago.

We can find no adequate words to describe the brutal acts committed against civilization and humanity. It is utterly deplorable that in today's world such unconceivable things happen so frequently. The Pyongyang regime appears to pay no regard to international opinion and resorts to any means of violence in order to achieve its objectives.

The ever-widening gap between this republic and North Korea in terms of national strength, particularly the growing international stature of Seoul, must be reason for Pyongyang's concern. North Korea is obsessed with the thought that losing to the south is totally unacceptable and that something must be done before it is too late. It is in desperation that they have acted through terrorism.

Pyongyang obviously believes that creation of social unrest in the south is an effective way to attain its goal of communizing the entire peninsula. Thus, it has tried to assassinate the president of the republic to trigger momentum for chaos here. Pyongyang has made three abortive attempts on his life--first during his visit to Manila in 1981, second in Seoul the same year and third during his trip to Canada last year. They followed several previous attempts, notably the commando infiltration near Chong Wa Dae in 1968.

Pyongyang's relentless acts of terrorism indicate that it intends to try to conquer the south by any means possible, including guerrilla warfare. We in the south should demonstrate a firm unity and build up our national strength to show North Korea that its reckless aggression will lead to nowhere but to its self-destruction.

CSO; 4100/013

INTER-KOREAN AFFAIRS

DAILY URGES WORLD TO 'RECONSIDER TIES' WITH N. KOREA

SK120955 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 11 Oct 83 p 2

[Editorial: "The Responsibility of the Burmese Government and the Public of the World"]

[Text] Since the beginning of this year, the tide of tension has continued to rise in East Asia. Amid this situation, the tension in the Korean peninsula has become something like the eye of a typhoon. This is precisely where our attention is concentrated.

In early spring of this year, North Korea declared the semiwar state against the joint ROK-U.S. Team Spirit 83 military exercise. Also, on 1 September, a Soviet fighter downed a Korean Airlines passenger plane with missiles. Now, because of this incident, the tension in the Korean peninsula has heightened and the situation in the East Asia has been further aggravated.

It is in these circumstances that the tragic bomb explosion occurred at the national cemetery of Burma during the visit to the country by President Chon Tu-hwan, once again proving that the Korean peninsula is the nucleus of the tension in Asia.

As President Chon noted in his statement in Rangoon prior to his departure for home, it is certain, as far as we can see, that the act of terror was committed by some foreign force outside Burma and it must be none other than the belligerent North Korean communist group.

Burmese President San Yu reportedly told President Chon that a quick investigation would be conducted to find out the truth of the incident. However, the responsibility of the Burmese Government, which failed to defend the security of the head of a country, with which it has diplomatic relations, and his suite whom it had invited, is clear. The Burmese Government must fully realize its responsibility and ferret out the ringleader of the crime. The Burmese Government must, we think, do so because it is an obligation and an act of apology.

We very urgently and earnestly request this, because we can take follow-up steps in accordance with the result of the investigation of the incident.

Since the beginning of this year, North Korea has made all-out efforts to make the Korean peninsula appear to the world to be in crisis. By creating an atmosphere of crisis on the Korean peninsula, North Korea attempted to obstruct the IPU conference in Seoul and is scheming to hamper the Seoul IMF conference in 1985, the 1986 Asian Games, and the 1988 World Olympics.

North Korea must have thought that the Korean Airliner incident, which occurred precisely a month before the Seoul IPU conference, greatly contributed to its strategy, because the incident helped the world realize the crisis in the Korean peninsula. Then, North Korea must have judged that it should do some other thing, before the sense of the crisis created by the KAL incident has diminished. Such a judgment, we think, brought the Rangoon tragedy.

In addition, the North Korean group must have thought that it should, through whatever means and methods, block the visit to Seoul by U.S. President Reagan which is scheduled for November. It is certain that the North Korean group must have thought that the shortcut to this is to bring the situation in South Korea to extreme chaos by injuring the South Korean head of state.

Therefore, when all these are considered, it is now clear that the Rangoon tragedy was not caused by any of those who love peace. Without hesitation, we say that the ringleader of the Rangoon incident is the North Korean communist group.

We, who are always aware of the unstable situation of Asia, appeal to the public of the world to fulfill the responsibility for peace and against terrorism and reconsider the diplomatic relations with North Korea by squarely looking at North Korea's attitude toward the world.

CSO: 4107/009

INTER-KOREAN AFFAIRS

VRPR URGES JOINT STRUGGLE OF ALL STUDENTS

SK050158 (Clandestine) Voice of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Weekly Feature: "Let Us Vigorously Wage a Joint Solidarity Struggle"]

[Text] How are you everybody? While anti-U.S. and antigovernment sentiment is being heightened among the masses all walks of life, the antigovernment struggle of the youths and students is being waged continuously. Today's reality, in which the antigovernment struggle is being stepped up by the youths and students, keenly demands a vigorous joint and solidarity struggle.

The vigorous waging of a joint and solidarity struggle by the popular masses in united strength will ensure victory because the struggle of the patriotic force against the enemy is a confrontation of power in its nature, a joint and solidarity struggle by the popular masses should be waged with the united strength of the popular masses to isolate the wicked enemy and successfully defeat him.

Because our youths and students are fighting against the wicked Chon Tu-hwan ring, supported by the U.S. aggressors, they should wage a vigorous joint and solidarity struggle with united strength to gain victory.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring is now attempting to crush the heightening struggle of the youths and students, using the tactic of defeating the enemy one by one. Under such circumstances, dispersed struggles will not be able to deal the enemy a stronger blow. In order to isolate and disperse the enemy and to deal it a decisive blow, a joint and solidarity struggle should be waged with consciousness of the objectives.

We can say that today's situation provides them with a good opportunity to wage a joint and solidarity struggle, because anti-U.S. and antigovernment sentiment is being heightened among the masses of all walks of life and vigorous antigovernment struggles are being waged in many areas.

As you know, the Seoul National University students who rose up in antigovernment struggle on 13 September staged an antigovernment struggle again on 28 September, followed by the antigovernment struggles at Sunggyugwan University, Yonsei University, Tongguk University, Sogang University, Sungmyong Women's

University, Tongdok Women's University and the University of Foreign Studies. On 22 September there was a bomb attack against the U.S. Cultural Center in Ategu, and on 27 September Mr Kim Yong-sam and other former politicians attacked the traitor Chon Tu-hwan in a statement. The situation shows the heated anti-U.S. and anti-Chon Tu-hwan sentiment of the patriotic students and masses of all walks of life.

If the youths and students wage a joint and solidarity struggle under such circumstances, they can deal the enemy a strong blow with united strength, can cause the anti-Chon Tu-hwan sentiment boiling among the masses of all walks of life to explode into a national antifascist struggle for democratization, and can develop it into an anti-U.S. struggle of the popular masses.

What is important in the hot-blooded patriotic students' joint and solidarity struggle is to strengthen the relations among the colleges and universities in the same area and those of different areas. When the patriotic students of one university rise up in a struggle with slogans of "Down With Chon Tu-hwan," "Abolish the Graduation Quota System," and others, the universities in the nearby areas should wage a joint struggle with the same slogans. It is also important to get the middle and high school students and the professors to join the struggle of the university students.

As proven by the 19 April struggle that incinerated the Syngman Rhee dictatorial regime and by the uprising in Pusan and Masan that overthrew the Pak Chong-hui Yusin regime, if the middle and high school students and professors join the university students' struggle, the struggle will spread like wild fire with enormous strength and will corner the enemy.

What is important for the patriotic students in organizing a joint and solidarity struggle is that they should take joint actions with the broad masses of all walks of life, including workers and peasants. The struggle of the university students alone is not enough to deal the enemy a decisive blow. If the patriotic masses of all walks of life wage a struggle of the popular masses, they can defeat the armed enemy.

The university students should go deeply among the workers and peasants, strengthen systematic solidarity with them, make efforts to realize joint actions and joint ranks, and wage a struggle with slogans reflecting their keen interests. At the same time, the masses of all walks of life should render active support to the patriotic students in their just struggle against the government, and should wage a daring struggle with them. The university and college students across the country should wage a more vigorous joint and solidarity struggle in conformity with the pressing demands of reality for a vigorous anti-U.S. and antigovernment struggle to overthrow the Chon Tu-hwan regime.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring is now desperately seeking fascist oppression, but this results from their sense of crisis. The Chon Tu-hwan ring is trembling with fear, isolated, and in a crisis at home and abroad. Under such circumstances, if the patriotic students across the country are firmly united in waging vigorous joint and solidarity struggles, and when the masses of all walks of life join the struggles, the Chon Tu-hwan regime will certainly be overthrown.

CSO: 4110/016

INTER-KOREAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

DENG XIAOPING SUPPORTS REUNIFICATION--Beijing--On 5 October, Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPC, held talks with (Den Hideo), a representative of the JSP, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. At that day's meeting, General Secretary Hu Yaobang revealed that Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the Central Military Commission, had explained the Chinese position on the situation on the Korean peninsula to Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defense, who had been visiting Beijing. The three main points in his remarks are as follows: China supports the north's proposal for founding a confederal state; the north will not invade the south, nor is there any sign that it would do so; if the south invaded the north, China could not be indifferent to the invasion. [Text] [SK080841 (Clandestine) Voice of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 7 Oct 83]

CSO: 4110/016

S.KOREA/POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

DAILY CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT MINISTERS, OFFICIALS

SK061049 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 2 Oct 83 p 3

[Column "Reporter's Memobook": "Unless Pushed Out...", article by assistant political editor Chu Ton-sik]

[Text] Watching a series of incidents such as Chang Yong-cha curb market scandal, the old one, and Myongsong Group and Yongdong Development scandals, the recent ones, we are doubly stunned.

First, we realize that the scale of these financial scandals exceed the records of past financial crimes. Second, we see that the responsible policymakers still hold fast to their positions in the face of such preposterous incidents.

Not only has the responsible banking official, even after he saw the crime that swallowed up 160 billion won, an amount far more than the bank's shared capital of 110 billion won, committed in his own bank, impudently gone public with what he called an announcement on the crimes, but he also is still sitting on a swivel chair in his office.

At the airport, the minister in charge of financial affairs who was hurriedly returning from a trip abroad said that he did know there was a financial scandal, but he did not know it was such a big one.

He seemed to say that he went abroad because he did not know it was such a large-scale incident.

O.K. Let us assume he did not know. Now that he knows how large the scale of the crime is, he could have said, at least, what he would do about it and how he would deal with those responsible. He did not say a word to this effect, however. If this kind of attitude reflects his personal self-confidence, well, then, we understand that. We feel a bit of indignant, however, when we realize that this kind of attitude was portrayed by a public servant who is supposed to be working for the public and who is supposed to take responsibility for what has happened.

This is only a symbolic part of the phenomena that have surfaced in the wake of the recent financial incidents. In the past, we have witnessed a lot of such examples. The problem is that whenever such incidents surface, they unan-

mously say "there is a person with appointing power who assigns us to this post..., thus implying they would not resign unless they were told to do so, or "I will resign after bringing the situation under control...." If you do not dwell on these words, they sound plausible, but if you think them over a little longer, you will soon find them to be nothing but an excuse for remaining in their positions.

Everybody knows that they are appointed by a person in power. But in the case of ministers or other public servants, it is two different things if the person with appointing power decides what they should do and if those responsible make clear what they will do and how they feel about what happened.

A while ago, people used to doggedly refuse to serve the government if they found serving it not right, and even while in government they used a leave their posts without reluctance if their honest and sincere opinion was not accepted, and returned to their native homes. Of course, we do not expect such an old, nice academic mettle from the present public servants. Nevertheless, we cannot help defining their deeds as shameless acts when they try to stay put in their office refusing to resign unless they are pushed out by the person with appointing power, although they had brought such great troubles to society.

Superficially, such an attitude may appear to be loyalty to one's superior, but it can be interpreted as an act of imposing only great weight on the shoulders of the person with appointing power. From this we can find the difference between a loyal servant to his superior and a genuine public servant serving the public.

An expression like "I will resign after bringing the situation under control..." can be nothing but hypocritical logic. They have already been tested in their ability and their way of running the administration through maladministration. We cannot possibly expect that the climate which had bred such incidents could be reformed because of one single incident. It is more convincing if we say that a new approach to running the administration will ensure prevention of recurrence of such incidents.

Those who have brought troubles to society, whether through intentional or accident acts, take responsibility for them. It is a social order. It could be the most effective way of warning against possible recurrence of such troubles.

Causes of such troubles will be dealt with by laws, and the question of whether they were intentional or accidental will rest with their conscience. Their contention that the troubles were accidental or incidental cannot serve as an excuse for them to stay in the administration which is to take all the responsibility for its deeds.

We have a piece of advice for the government and the ruling party who are professing an embodiment of responsible politics, for the politicians in charge of state affairs, and for the public servants: Please do not add another around of unpleasantness to the disappointment people already had because of the shocking incidents with their ignoble attitude.

CSO: 4107/009

S. KOREA/POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

REPORTAGE ON SENTENCING, ARRESTS OF STUDENTS

EWHA University Students Sentenced

SK070120 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Oct 83 p 8

[Text] The Seoul District Criminal Court yesterday sentenced two EWHA Women's University students to one and a half years in prison each for violating the law banning illegal assembly and demonstration. Judge Chang Chun-chol gave the terms to Chin Chang-hui, 20, a senior majoring in history, and Hong Jong-hwa, 21, a junior majoring in educational psychology.

The judge found the two women students guilty of inciting about 200 fellow students to stage an illegal demonstration on their school campus in Seoul on May 25.

Assembly Law Violation

SK070135 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Oct 83 p 8

[Text] Police yesterday arrested three students of two universities, including two women, on charges of violating the law on illegal assembly and demonstration. Two of those arrested are Tongdok Women's University students--Sim Yong-nam and Kim Hae-ran, both 22 and seniors. Police said the two, carrying torches, scattered leaflets with antigovernment slogans and demonstrated on their campus last Thursday and again on Tuesday.

Illegal Rally

SK090643 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Oct 83 p 8

[Text] The Seoul Noryangjin Police requested arrest warrants for four former Chungang University sophomores yesterday on suspicion of violating the Law of Assembly and Demonstration. The Seoul Sodaemun Police, meanwhile, arrested two juniors from the Methodist Theological Seminary yesterday on similar charges.

Four University Students Arrested

SK120258 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Oct 83 p 8

[Text] Incheon (YONHAP)--Police arrested four Inha University students yesterday on charges of violating the law on illegal assembly and demonstration.

The four--Yi Min-chae, 22, Yi Ki-son, 21, Hwang Hong-kyu, 23, all seniors, and Yun Ho-yong, 22, a junior, scattered seditious leaflets and damaged the statue of the late President Syngman Rhee on their campus last Thursday as they instigated other students to demonstrate, police said. Rhee founded the school.

CSO: 4100/013

S. KOREA/POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

BANK OFFICIAL ARRESTED--The Supreme Prosecutor's Office has arrested one more bank official in Seoul for his alleged part in a financial scandal involving the Yongdong Development Co. The office identified the suspect arrested Friday as Sin Pom-sik, 31, assistant manager of the Chohung Bank Chungang branch. His arrest brought to 27 the number of people detained in connection with forged payment guarantees by officials of the Chohung Bank. [Text] [SK090649 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Oct 83 p 8]

CSO: 4100/013

S. KOREA/ECONOMY

RANGOON INCIDENT NOT AFFECTING NATION'S ECONOMY

SK140430 Seoul YONHAP in English 0306 GMT 14 Oct 83

[Text] Seoul, Oct 14 (YONHAP)--The recent Rangoon bomb blast has had no impact on the growing South Korean economy, and some major economic indicators are even improving. The money supply has stabilized, commodity prices are steady, exports are growing noticeably and the stock market has regained momentum.

Quoting Bank of Korea statistics, a government source said Friday that the rate of increase in the total money supply, which registered a 17.1 percent upswing at the end of September, dropped to 14.3 percent in the first 10 days of October.

The government's 1983 money policy calls for the total money supply, which is composed of currency in circulation and demand and time deposits, to be held under a 15-percent rise from last year. As much as 151 billion won (191.1 million U.S. dollars) was withdrawn from circulation and deposited in banks in the first 10 days of October, pulling down the nation's total money supply from 21.956 trillion won (27.8 billion dollars) at the end of September to 21.805 trillion won (27.6 billion dollars).

Despite the decreased total money supply growth, savings deposits increased by 114.7 billion won (145.2 million dollars) in the 10-day period, according to the source.

A business and government drive to step up exports brought the value of commodities shipped in the first 13 days of October to 563.7 million dollars, up 136.9 percent from the like period in 1982, the source said quoting Commerce-Industry Ministry statistics.

Vice Commerce-Industry Minister Kum Chin-ho Friday called representatives of the 10 government-designated general trading companies into his office and told them to increase overseas sales activities to hit this year's 23.5 billion dollar export target.

Amid reports of Sunday's bomb blast in Rangoon, the composite stock price index dropped to 115.59 Monday, the lowest level since the beginning of this year. After the government renewed its pledge to release 50 billion won

(63.3 million dollars) in emergency stock purchase funds, however, the index rose 1.66 points Tuesday, 0.27 points Wednesday and 1.05 points Thursday.

Trade volume was 6.6 million shares early this week, nearly half of the daily average. But it increased to 10.1 million issues Thursday.

Gold prices were quoted at 53,000 won (one U.S. dollar is worth 790 won) per 3.75 grams, and a 80-kilogram bag of rice was selling for 70,000 won, the same level registered in August, the source said.

CSO: 4100/013

S.KOREA/MEDIA AND THE ARTS

DAILY SHOWS CONCERN AT AFKN'S TV PROGRAMMING

SK061337 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 5 Oct 83 p 3

[Column "Reporter's Memo": Article entitled "AFKN-TV" by political editor Kim Tae-chung]

[Text] Beginning 4 October, American Forces Korean Network [AFKN] organizes a system, under which it can simultaneously broadcast programs directly relayed from the U.S. mainland via satellite, and drastically expands broadcasting programs and hours. In this connection, we are really embarrassed at finding ourselves defenseless in terms of our relevant system and spiritual posture.

It is the established international understanding that the broadcasting radio wave is within the concept of territory and, thus, radio waves are the property of the citizens. Because of such a public nature of radio waves, every domestic broadcasting mass medium should be placed under the strict control so that its broadcasting content and hours can be suitable for the public interest.

I understand that even in the United States, which can be said to be the paradise for freedom of speech, radio waves are under control. Moreover, it is natural that, in the case of broadcasts of a foreign country whose background of spiritual and cultural life is quite different from ours, control is a national issue, not a public one.

Nonetheless, we almost cannot control or restrict the programs broadcast by a U.S. forces broadcasting station. It is no exaggeration to say that this may well be said to show a colonial aspect in terms of radio waves.

I do not want to discuss whether the content of the U.S. forces' broadcasts is good or bad. As far as this issue is concerned, the almost tripled volume of news programs and the direct hookup of the world's sports events to our living rooms might be conducive to complementing our mass media. But, all information is conveyed by mass media on the basis of that media's individual point of view. In many cases, this goes beyond the category of objective facts. I experienced this so many times during my stay in the United States.

In particular, the fact about the increased number of motion pictures and serials is just embarrassing us. We even fear to see the situation in which

the popular feature films, which may be suitable only for the taste of the ~~and~~ Americans or which are regarded as "bad programs" even in the United States, will be broadcast to our homes any time, showing lengthy scenes of things American.

Furthermore, no one ensures that the lascivious and unfamiliar films--which will be broadcast under the name of midnight broadcasting--will not be broadcast.

However, no matter how useful the programs of the U.S. forces network may be--from the objective point of view--this cannot be a proper reason for anyone to unilaterally broadcast the mode of living and way of thinking of one's own taste through the radio waves of another country.

With the end of World War II as momentum, we have been, we are ashamed to say, indiscriminately exposed to the American culture and mode of living. We are responsible for being careless in retrieving our own things. But, one cannot escape the relevant criticism of having poured out numerous alien things on us in the whirlpool of the political and economic situation.

In this connection, I cannot but point out that the expanded broadcasting programs of "Americans' broadcasts" is based on an easygoing attitude which does not at all take into consideration the Koreans' cultural pride.

We also have problems. Although a U.S. broadcast is for the U.S. forces in the ROK, we have no system of controlling it. I once raised this question to the government authorities; but, I have been given uncertain answers from the Ministry of Culture and Information and the Ministry of Communications.

It is not unreasonable for the authorities to react that way. This is because there is no relevant system or regulations. It is learned that except for the following, there is no special provisions: The use of radio waves is subject to consultations in accord with the agreement between the communications authorities of the two countries, as stipulated in the article 2 A of chapter 3 of the ROK-U.S. Status-of-Forces Agreement; and, in this connection, there is a stipulation about "the process of consultations of the use of frequencies." Therefore, when the U.S. forces authorities apply for consultations or ask for a written agreement, the ROK is just supposed to render cooperation.

The authorities in the Ministry of Culture and Information have just answered by saying: "Because we have no knowledge of the present broadcasting content, we will obtain and analyze the programs. We understand that the U.S. forces authorities are broadcasting selectively. Thus, we think that there are no programs which are very harmful."

Does this mean that "because the U.S. forces will do everything well, there is nothing to worry about?"

CSO: 4107/009

S. KOREA/FOREIGN RELATIONS

REPORTAGE ON AFTERMATH OF RANGOON BOMB INCIDENT

Business Circles Discuss Explosion

SK110323 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 11 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] Major economic organizations and businesses were busy Sunday and Monday working on measures to cope with the aftermath of the explosion in Rangoon earlier Sunday which claimed the lives of 16 Koreans, including 4 cabinet ministers.

Immediately after the report of the bomb blast at the Burmese Martyr's Mausoleum, the country's four major economic organizations--the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), the Korean Traders Association (KTA), the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) and the Korea Federation of Small Businesses (KFSB)--summoned their key officials to deliberate on measures concerning the incident.

Several major business groups, including Hyundai, Daewoo, Samsung and lucky-Goldstar, also convened emergency meetings of ranking officials to discuss appropriate measures following the tragic incident.

Although major economic organizations and the business community as a whole showed anger and surprise over the bomb blast apparently engineered by the North Korean agents, they renewed their determination to do their utmost to keep the country's stabilized economy from being affected by the incident in negative manner.

They called on the government, business and the general public to pool their wisdom to cope with the situation wisely so as not to undermine the country's continued economic prosperity. "We need more concerted efforts and coordination to tide over the difficult situation," argued one business executive.

The KCCI spokesman said that the Burmese bomb incident was almost too shocking to believe. It is really intolerable, he said, to know that virtually all Korea's economic ministers were killed in the bomb blast.

It is urgent that the nation's business community should make all-out efforts to tide over the situation by mobilizing all its available wisdom and courage rather than being frustrated by the incident.

The KTA likewise expressed profound sorrow at the death of 16 Koreans, including 4 cabinet members. Expressing deep condolence to the bereaved families, the KTA urged the business community to do their utmost to strengthen the country's economic power so as to crush belligerent North Korea.

The FKI argued that the bomb blast in Rangoon is a good example that once again unveils the real nature of the North Korean puppet regime. Its all-out efforts are to undermine the orderly economic and social situation in the Republic of Korea by employing all available means, including violence and terror.

Notwithstanding such inhumane and antisocial acts committed by North Korea, we should redouble our efforts to maintain our orderly economic activities both here and abroad to continue the country's economic prosperity and stabilization, the FKI argued.

The KFSB, representing the interests of the country's small businesses, also issued a statement condemning the barbarous and inhumane bomb blast that was apparently engineered by North Korean agents. "Despite the tragic incident, we should not be discouraged or disheartened but instead should make all-out efforts to tide over the situation through pan-national solidarity and cooperation, it stressed.

"What we have to do at this juncture is to work harder to increase the competitiveness of Korean products in international markets to make the country's economy prosperous," said the KFSG.

CHUNGANG ILBO Editorial

SK121147 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 10 Oct 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Catastrophe in Rangoon and Citizens' Posture"]

[Text] Upon hearing the sad news from Burma, we are just stupefied. Even though we are witnessing this unprecedentedly tragic incident with our own ears and eyes, we still cannot believe our own eyes and ears.

A powerful explosive, which had been installed at the Aung San national cemetery at an earlier hour with a view to doing injury to our head of state, who was on an overseas tour, sacrificed a total of 16 official and unofficial members of the presidential entourage. As President Chon said in his arrival statement, this tragic incident is a crime against mankind.

All citizens are respectfully bowing their heads in prayer for the repose of the souls of those who died unnatural deaths for the sake of the country in an alien land in a torrid heat after having rendered services to the country. Also, we comfort ourselves with the thought that it is very fortunate for the presidential couple to have narrowly escaped the disaster.

No words can be found to express our bitter grief and shock at having lost the pillars of the state and our sons, husbands, fathers, and friends in another atrocious act of killing and injuring even before the wound of the downing of a Korean Airlines passenger plane heals up.

This violent act of murder--unprecedented in the history of international relations--was committed by an inhumane group which is trying to destroy the international political order. Such an act should be punished in the name of all mankind.

There is no doubt that this case was committed by members of a special commando unit sent by North Korea in view of: the powerfulness of the explosion at the Aung San cemetery; the accuracy of the time of the explosion; and the similarity between this case and an explosion at the Hyonchung Gate of the National Cemetery in Tongjak-dong in June of 1970.

We remember that also in President Chon's visit to Canada last year, North Korea attempted to injure him, but the plot was detected beforehand.

It is clear where North Korea's operations are aimed. North Korea seems to have tried to realize its ambition for achieving unification through communication by taking advantage of the ROK's leadership vacuum and the social confusion which would have been brought about if it had injured our head of state.

Everyone can see by whose hands a total of 16 members of the presidential entourage were sacrificed in light of the facts that the evil hands of a murderous group were reached toward our head of state to seek his life and that the catastrophe at the Aung San cemetery is similar to the North Korean commando unit's attempt to attack Chongwadae on 21 January 1968.

We do not think that the Burmese Government is directly responsible for this case. On the contrary, we can say, Burma also is a victim because it has lost face after having failed to safely guard the entourage of a foreign head of state who were on a visit to that country.

It goes without saying that the Burmese Government is responsible for thoroughly and quickly ferreting out and arresting the ringleaders of the case and for thoroughly dealing with the aftermath of the case.

Burma is a closed country which is taking a socialist line. Because Burma's borders communized Indochina, it is not so difficult for impure elements to infiltrate into Burma. Moreover, North Korea has sent 12 officials to its embassy in Rangoon. This number is not only larger than that of our embassy which has seven officials, but also that of any advanced country's embassy.

The Burmese Government should have paid full attention to this aspect. North Korea has been jittery because our national strength is increasing, our international status is improving, and important meetings are being held one after another in Seoul.

Under such circumstances, President Chon's visit to Southwest Asia and Oceania was to be realized. It is common sense that North Korea is running wild to obstruct the journey for our summit diplomacy and minimize the results of such a diplomacy by hook or by crook, disregarding the time and place.

[SK121252] We much more regret that the imperviousness of Burma, a closed society, to the reality of such South-North relations was a remote cause of the case.

We have to correctly understand what the basic characteristics of the catastrophe at the Aung San cemetery are. This catastrophe is not simply violence or international terrorism committed by North Korea nor is it only an act of self-injury of the nation. It is part of the irregular warfare which North Korea is waging against us. Since the cease-fire in 1953, South and North Korea have been continuing a war without a frontline. As the gap between the national strengths in South and North Korea largely widens, North Korea has viscerously committed more indirect infiltrations and provocations.

This case proves again that the activities of the North Korean commando units are expanding in all areas overseas where the citizens of the ROK go.

We established a diplomatic relationship with Burma in 1975. The exchanges, however, in economy, diplomacy, and culture between the two countries have been minimal. Thus, the ROK and Burma have not had deep tender affection or deep hatred toward each other.

Also in light of this, there is no doubt that the members of a North Korean commando unit had bought off procommunist elements in Burma or independently committed the act which incurs the wrath of heaven and man.

Our efforts to consolidate peace in the Korean peninsula and make this country an advanced nation are repeatedly coming under challenge. As President Chon has said, no matter how severe a challenge we may come under, we will not be upset. On the contrary, we should overcome this difficult situation with the pan-national reconciliation and unity, renewing our determination. In this way, we can console the souls of those who died for the country and mollify the wounds of the injured, all who had worked on the first lines of the country.

We cannot suppress our surging indignation. We feel grief for ourselves with our nation's repeatedly suffering pain and ordeals. We are faint with a sense of frustration. We can no longer see the distinguished persons who had energetically worked for the open diplomacy, economic growth, and for gathering news reports. We can no longer depend on their wisdom. Considering this, we almost lose our reason.

The deaths of the victims are not only a shock to the bereaved families and us, but also a great loss to the country. But, we, first of all, should overcome ourselves. And then, we should overcome the ordeals.

We have a historical mission. In other words, we should consolidate our status as the main body of the history by building a stabilized, peaceful, and prosperous country.

Trembling, we hoist the flags to half mast. We will hold the public funeral for those who died for the country, weeping loudly in our hearts.

We should bear in mind that the act of flying flags at half mast, of holding a public funeral, and healing the injured is not an end, but a beginning. The citizens, who are waging a war without a frontline, should lower the sound of weeping even in a sorrow. North Korea is watching for an opportunity in which we are frustrated.

Now we are facing a tense moment. We should not forget that at the moment, we are required to be conscious of the unity and harmony among all citizens and of the challenge more than ever before.

Need for Courage, Wisdom Noted

SK111418 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 11 Oct 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Wisdom and Courage for Reconciliation"]

[Text] The Rangoon tragedy gave us a serious shock. At the news of the tragedy, some people were dazed, some were overcome by sorrow, and some shuddered with outrage. All are quite at a loss as to what to do.

Nothing could be more miserable than if we let ourselves be seized by the shock, grief, and indignation and let ourselves react in accordance with blind and animal emotions. It certainly is an unhappy event that our country all of a sudden lost some able men who represented our government and not a few nation's functionaries were injured. It is, however, more important for us to wisely and honorably struggle through the future by correctly understanding the tragedy and by correctly bringing the situation under control.

In this context, we feel it is necessary for all the people in the nation, the masters of the nation, to calmly analyze the cause of this tragedy, what effects it will have on our future, and think in what responsible manner we should live in the future.

Such being the case, it is quite meaningless if we let the shock, grief, and indignation that seized us immediately after the incident drive us to self-deprecating functions or to exhibition meetings for denunciation as we did in the old era, without filtering the emotions through our reasoning power.

The division of our country into the North and South and confrontation between the North and South are not a situation that has suddenly cropped up today; they have remained so for over 40 years, and it was 38 years ago that our country was ravaged and turned into a dump of ashes because of the Korean war. So vivid are the memories of the war that we feel it was only yesterday.

Frequently, we live in the fantasy of peace. We must, however, wake up to the reality that the state of warfare does not disappear only because we shut our eyes.

The Rangoon tragedy teaches us this point. Such an incident will not be solved simply by shouting such slogans as "Let Us Nurture National Strength" or "An Eye for an Eye, and Ear for Ear," or by carrying out revenge.

As their animosity and brutal attempts have not suddenly originated from Rangoon, it would be foolish to let ourselves be seized by extreme emotions and call for punishment and retaliation for them. We must also realize that retaliation and punishment, an expression of momentary emotions, could bring greater and more tragic consequences to our nation.

What we need now is to nurture the ability to overcome their animosity and their justification of terrorism and, with an appropriate approach, prevail over and persuade them. Instead of lamenting "How long should we remain victims of their bullying?" We should pursue wisdom and courage to fundamentally prevent such tragedies from happening.

Not only will the stupid repetition of retaliation not benefit the nation, but it will despoil us of what small happiness we enjoy. We must realize this.

We have only two things which we must commit ourselves to. First, all of our people, including the ruling group, must return to ourselves with openmindedness and spend time understanding the cold reality and examining ourselves.

Whether we like it or not, our country is divided and our people are separated, and the North and the South are murderously confronting each other in the midst of a strained situation akin to a state of warfare. Peace does not come to us simply because we shut our eyes to forget such a situation. Under such stark historic circumstances, every individual in the nation, including the ruling group, should question whether he has maintained a broader point of view for the nation's reality and future and whether he has acted as conscience dictates, without leaving shameful things behind.

We must question whether we have not turned our back on the stark historic reality out of consideration for our own interests and happiness and if we have not sacrificed others by taking advantage of the stark historic reality. Without such repentance and reflection, we cannot nurture our national strength, no matter how much we may pay lip service to this theme.

The second thing we must do is to achieve genuine national reconciliation and national unity in the true meaning of the words. Economic and military strength alone cannot make our country strong. Only when the people in the nation have confidence in the government can we have genuine national strength, powerful national strength. Making all the people of one mind cannot be done by words alone. It is possible only when all the people try for reconciliation through their unanimous will and mutual trust.

People who were stunned, were seized by grief or expressed their outrage at the news of the Rangoon tragedy all manifested their pure love for the country. Their patriotism is very valuable. National unity and national development can only be achieved when they are based on such a pure mind of the people which has not been affected by egoism and avarice.

Now is the propitious time for us to mollify the people's pure and unadulterated but hurt minds and turn their minds into a united force. It is also a time for the ruling group to achieve national reconciliation by concentrating

their wisdom, courage, and ability to this end. When the national reconciliation is achieved, the unhappiness of the Rangoon tragedy will become a misfortune turned into bliss.

Bombing Condemned

SK120533 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 11 Oct 83 p 2

[Editorial: "All of Us Are Victims of Terrorism--Let Us Overcome Burma Disaster With Composure and Coherence"]

[Text] Korea is the direct victim of the Rangoon bombing, a most barbarous assassination bombing which has made the world shudder with shock and indignation. The unprecedented terrorist, criminal act cannot escape condemnation and punishment in the world's history because it not only targeted the head of Korea and its cabinet ministers, but it is also a brazen challenge to the civilization of mankind in the 20th century and to the principle of international exchange.

At the Aung San Mausoleum in Burma--the first leg of President Chon Tu-hwan's official state visit to six southwest Asian and oceanic countries--on 9 October, a strong explosion took place, killing 16 personnel, including Vice Premier So Sok-chun, and leaving 15 suite members injured seriously or slightly, who lined up, waiting for President Chon's arrival for a wreathlaying ceremony. Fortunately, President Chon and the first lady were safe. They hurriedly returned home with unendurable shock and grim resolution at dawn on 10 October.

Repressing with difficulty surging indignation against the outrageous atrocity which we cannot imagine with the good sense of civilized men, we bow to pray for the souls of the deceased and our deepest condolences to the bereaved families amid bitterness. We also send our sincere consolation to the presidential couple.

The most urgent task is to arrest the thrice-cursed criminals and to thoroughly ferret out the wirepullers. It is obvious that the explosion is the result of a vicious plot which must have been meticulously planned in advance. President Chon has stressed: "That North Korean communists, who are most inhumane in the entire world, are suspected in the crime not only in Korea, but elsewhere as well."

It has been reported that Burmese President U San Yu and Ne Win, chairman of the Burmese Socialist Program Party, called on President Chon and promised to round up and punish the coward criminals and to thoroughly investigate into the truth of the incident.

To say frankly, an inviting country is totally responsible for insuring the security of a foreign head of state and his entourage who are making an official visit at its invitation in order to cement friendship. Nonetheless, such an unheard-of disaster took place at the solemn mausoleum at which President Chon was scheduled to pay tribute. This revealed the Burmese Government's

insufficiency in security problems. We note that, for the future of Korea-Burmese relations and in the name of civilization, the Burmese Government should arrest the criminals, ferret out the wirepullers, and take thorough follow-up measures for punishment. This is a key for the Burmese Government to restore its prestige.

At this tragic moment, we feel that we should also pay keen attention henceforth to the moves of the puppet North which is suspected to be the most merciless, brazen, bellicose force on the earth. The reason is that, in connection with the Rangoon incident, we are reminded of the 21 January incident in 1968 through which the Kim Il-song group attempted to attack Chongwadae and of the assassination attempt veiled prior to President Chon's visit to Canada in June last year.

It is a well-known fact that, entering this year, the puppet North has fanatically resorted to all means and methods to impede the ROK's efforts to promote its international prestige in a peaceful manner and to advance its diplomacy toward the nonaligned countries. It is obviously reasonable that there will be a limit to our patience if the tragic explosion, through various evidences to be collected in the course of investigation, is found to have been conducted or manipulated by the puppet North. The criminals cannot escape whatever type of punishment. In case the puppet North is proven to be involved in the incident, we should prudently observe whether the Kim Il-song-Kim Chong-il hereditary system tried to check the ROK's open diplomacy toward the nonaligned bloc through violent means or to scheme a war with a sinister excuse.

The Rangoon bombing is no different from the shooting down of the Korean Airlines plane by the Soviet Union in September in that both incidents are harsh, merciless, international crimes infringing upon humanity. The Rangoon explosion is, however, a more serious crime because it attempted to assassinate our government's major figures with a third country as a theater and, thus, to perpetrate southward invasion by plunging the ROK into chaos.

At this moment, it is difficult to jump at the conclusion how much this incident will create ripple-effects on the political, economic, social, and other fields and, moreover, on North-South relations and the international political situation. We should strenuously and keenly watch the development of the situation and take multisided measures.

What is stressed at this moment is that the disaster is terrorism targeted at all of us and is a "calamity caused by outside forces" which is connected with the foundation of the country. What is essentially demanded is concord, coherence, and the concentration of wisdom. Thus, we should swiftly establish our posture which we should take. And we should prove that no terrorism and violence can shake the foundation of the country. For this reason, flared reaction should be avoided and, instead, we should seek solidarity with the world's peace-loving forces for stability based on concord and for the punishment of the atrocity.

KOREA TIMES Calls for Unity

SK120211 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Rising Above Tragedy"]

[Text] We, along with all peace-loving peoples in the world have been plunged into deep sorrow and indignation beyond description by the bomb blast that claimed the lives of 16 persons and wounded 15 others in President Chon Tu-hwan's entourage visiting Rangoon, Burma, Sunday. The remains of the victims were returned home silently yesterday and the joint national funeral service for them will be held tomorrow morning.

Many are mourning for the victims, and public rallies are being held across the country to denounce the barbaric massacre believed to have been a meticulously premeditated plot masterminded by North Korean terrorists.

Angered by successive communist provocations, Air Lines jetliner on Sept. 1, the Korean people's sentiment has been very much hurt--some of them even claiming that immediate reprisal should be taken against the communist provocations. [as received]

As President Chon said upon his return from Burma Monday, the confrontation between South and North Korea has indeed grown ever more acute not only in military terms but also in the front of diplomacy.

Our Armed Forces and national police are now on special alert against any new wave of provocations from North Korea.

The powerful explosion at the Rangoon mausoleum, which was apparently aimed at the life of the president, must be tantamount to a most despicable challenge--even an unprovoked war--against our Republic.

On the other hand, it is indeed regrettable that full precautionary security measures were not taken to prevent the horrible incident at one of the places in Rangoon which a foreign head of state and his entourage were scheduled to visit.

For all the sentiment and harsh reality, it is advised that we compose ourselves and think over what to do calmly.

The tenacious provocations by the North Korean communists are expected to continue to block the external outreach of our national strengths. They react violently to Seoul's growing international stature by disturbing our domestic peace and threatening national security.

Whatever malicious band may threaten our security, as President Chon declared, our sublime determination to pursue peace and progress can never be nipped off.

The nation should not merely remain saddened over the sacrifices of those killed, including topnotch people in government service. All of us should renew our resolve to devote ourselves to the task of building national strength and safeguarding our nation.

Historically, the Koreans are an unswerving people who have ever been able to survive numerous challenges and troubles from within and without.

Taking pride in having a reserve of national strength hitherto, we are confident that the nation can repel any threat to its survival--and, what is more, keep up its progress and well-being.

Bowing to pray for the souls of the deceased, we pledge to fulfill the historic mandate to punish those who disturb world peace and international order.

To do this, we should prevail over this difficult juncture with utmost courage by employing all reason and wisdom in a firm unity of the people and the government.

Daily Urges Swift Action

SK140902 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 12 Oct 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Evidence of North Korean Puppets' Crime Being Revealed--Burmese Government Should Take a Resolute Step"]

[Text] Thanks to the Burmese authorities' daring and prompt action, the investigation into the Aung San assassination bomb explosion incident is revealing an outline of the truth, coming closer to determining the truth that the main culprits are the North Korean communist terrorists.

According to a report from Rangoon, it is known that before President Chon Tu-hwan's Burmese visit, North Korean communists had infiltrated their special agents there by sea and air. One of them has been arrested, one shot to death, and one who ran away is now being chased. The official announcement of the Burmese Government that the suspects whom it shot or arrested are Koreans, in fact, confirms that the main culprits of the Aung San assassination bomb blast barbarity are the North Korean puppets' terrorists.

We know the barbarous nature of the North Korean puppets' terrorism, but the incident made the entire world vividly feel it once again, and we cannot help trembling with horror at the Kim Il-song ring's cruel atrocities. The North Korean communists have habitually denied their involvement whenever they committed an illegal barbarity, but they will find no excuse to escape the responsibility this time.

In addition to the worldwide punishment and sanctions, we express our deep concern over the steps to be taken by the Burmese Government right now.

We are closely watching the developments of the promise for searching the criminals which Burma's strongman Gen Ne Win made to President Chon Tu-hwan,

and we look forward to the successful results of the joint efforts of the ROK and Burma for an early revelation of the truth of the incident. We look forward to the swift political, diplomatic, and realistic steps to be taken by the Burmese Government, in view of the importance of the incident. We understand that it will express its moral apology as well in that the Burmese Government decided to send its condolence delegation to the National Funeral Service for the Martyred Diplomatic Mission scheduled for 13 October.

In view of the expeditious manner of the Rangoon authorities in verifying the truth of the case, we expect that responsible actions for the case will follow shortly, from political and legal standpoints. Above all, it is most important for the Burmese Government to swiftly arrest the other criminals at large, comprehensively verify the truth of case, and take due steps against the North Korean puppets. Because it was a tragedy caused by a barbarity unprecedented in the history of human civilization, we can feel the extreme tension in the world's attention. The various steps that can be taken under international law should be taken at an appropriate time.

An example of such a step is a political and legal one through the United Nations or the International Court. Before such legal and political steps, however, Burmese authorities ought to show our government and people their best expression of will and action. The Burmese Government ought to take strong punitive measures, mobilizing every means possible, to demonstrate that the North Korean communists' barbarity is never to be tolerated or overlooked. Such punitive measures should include one in its diplomatic relations with North Korea, and the Burmese Government should speedily proceed with the investigation of the case and take steps to make a worldwide accusation against the North Korean communists' barbarity.

Such steps by the Burmese Government would represent its best expression of sincerity toward the ROK Government and people who suffered severe damage from the Aung San assassination bomb incident. It will, at the same time, to some degree save face for the Burmese Government in the international community.

We, once again, urge the Burmese Government to conduct an expeditious, fair investigation, and to take the appropriate actions swiftly.

Editorial on Funeral Ceremonies

SK130551 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Prayer for Patriotic Souls"]

[Text] As the joint funeral ceremony is to be held this morning in Seoul for 16 persons who have been victimized by an international terrorist act in the Burmese capital of Rangoon, we join the entire population of this country in offering a silent prayer for them.

Their remains will be moved from the site of the funeral service to the National Cemetery, situated on the Han River flowing through Seoul, where they will be laid to rest eternally, side by side with numerous other fallen heroes whose patriotic deeds will be long remembered by us all.

The 16 patriotic figures, for whose voiceless souls all citizens of the Republic make a momentary pause to offer a pious prayer this morning, include 4 government ministers and other personages who were accompanying President Chon Tu-hwan on his Asia-Pacific tour.

Tearful mourners participating in the funeral ceremonies held on Yoi-do Islet, together with their brethren in the street, are once again reminded of the harsh reality facing this country and the rest of the world today, in which international terrorism prevails, overriding peace and justice.

In particular, world opinion seems to have grasped that many such a terrorist crime is manipulated by Kim Il-song's clique in North Korea, as in this latest case of a powerful explosive device in the Burmese national cemetery, which killed so many people and injured others during the state visit to that country by our president.

Intensifying our belief, Burmese police have reportedly killed one Korean terrorist, captured another, and are seeking a third in connection with the bomb blast Sunday.

We have yet to see the whole picture of the manhunt operation by the Burmese authorities, now underway in connection with the recent tragedy. At this juncture, however, the "Korean terrorist" captured or killed by them are immediately believed by us to be North Korean agents.

Since our own investigative team has been dispatched to Rangoon to help the Burmese in probing into the incident, we urge the Burmese Government authorities to do whatever they can in a sincere and positive way to uncover the real story of the horrible happening.

The Burmese Government should feel a sense of responsibility for the incident, in which the life of a foreign head of state whom it had invited to visit had to be exposed to extreme danger, and many of his entourage were tragically killed at the hands of vicious terrorists.

In view of its cordial friendly spirit, manifested in the invitation for a state visit by President Chon, we are sure that the Burmese Government is doing its best to convince the Korean Government and people of its investigation and in future process of bringing the culprits to justice and settling other problems.

And, once the Burmese government is able to reach a conclusion about the North Korean involvement in the flagrant international violence, it would be most reasonable for Rangoon to take due retaliatory actions against Pyongyang in their existing relations.

This is the best tangible way of expressing Burma's condolences to the bereaved families of our deceased patriots and to the Korean people at large. To this effect, the related government authorities are also called upon to take every possible step in diplomacy, in cooperation with friendly nations.

Victims Mourned

SK130545 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 13 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Rebounding From Mourning"]

[Text] Today the nation bids an eternal farewell to the souls of 16 victims of the tragic bomb explosion aimed at our governmental delegation led by President Chon Tu-hwan visiting Rangoon. Our profound sense of loss and sorrow can never be fully recompensed by any amount of high tribute paid and sympathy expressed for those felled by the diabolical hands of international communist agents.

Our sentiments of mourning and anger are redoubled by the fact that those many ranking officials we lost were men of outstanding timber who had long devoted their careers to the cause of the nation. There remained many more rewarding years for their caliber and energy to be harnessed toward the modernization of the country.

Who could have imagined that those dynamic and leading members of the civil service would return home dead and silent only a few days after embarking on a significant diplomatic mission abroad to assist in the president's six-nation tour? All our fellow countrymen and their friends worldwide join in washing everlasting peace to their ashes and offering heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

The brutal assault on our visiting official party in Burma was no doubt masterminded by communist North Korea and committed by its own agents or foreign accomplices in its employ. We cannot but be all the more indignant and disappointed at the inhuman and unpardonable crime perpetrated by North Koreans.

The coldbloodedness and desperation of the war machine in Pyongyang are not unknown to us who have witnessed no end of its military adventurism and sabotage both in and out of the country. The latest outrage perpetrated in a foreign land against our government leaders has hit a new high in naked cowardice and violence.

Our people and all fellow humans elsewhere who stand for reason, decency and dignity of man were reawakened to the ugly and dangerous nature of Kim Il-song posing as champion of international communism and revolution. He feels not the slightest qualms of conscience in his indiscriminate campaign of murder, terror and subversion.

There are good reasons for us to accept the Rangoon atrocity as a grave provocation and challenge. Obviously, the Pyongyang hierarchy is going full out to resort to intensified tactics of armed thrusts for open infiltration and destruction.

As had been feared, a bomb blast at the American Cultural Center in Taegu preceded the World Travel Congress of ASTA held here with massive attendance.

Then, another explosion causing heavier casualties in Burma interrupted our diplomatic mission while the IPU Conference was underway in Seoul. They signal extremes Pyongyang is ready to resort to for disturbing our internal peace and discrediting our international image.

With the national funeral for the fallen members of the presidential retinue over today, it is now time for the entire nation to rebound from the grief and distress of the Rangoon incident that has smitten us on the heels of the KAL passenger plane tragedy. The only way for us to make up for the sacrifices suffered will be to transform our mourning and wrath into a fresh commitment and resolution to prepare against any such eventuality and prevail over North Korea by all means.

We have a history of courageous and vigorous resistance to perils and threats from within and without on the basis of national solidarity and resourcefulness. The nation's survival and growth in the face of the hostile and militant regime of North Korea calls for increased unity and wisdom on our part.

Condolences From Foreign News Agencies

SK130605 Seoul YONHAP in English 0546 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Seoul, Oct 13 (YONHAP)--Many news agencies in the world have cabled messages to Korea's YONHAP NEWS AGENCY to express their consolation and well-wishes for its two staff members wounded in Rangoon's bomb blast last Sunday.

YONHAP photo editor Choe Kum-yong and reporter Kim Ki-song were among the 14 wounded in the bombing that claimed the lives of 17 other South Koreans accompanying President Chon Tu-hwan on his state visit to Burma.

The news agencies which sent messages of consolation to YONHAP President Chong Chong-sik are: the ASSOCIATED PRESS of the United States (from General Director Roy Essoyan), the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL of the United States (from Vice President for Asian-Pacific Affairs Albert E. Kaff), the REUTERS NEWS AGENCY of Great Britain (from General Manager Michael E. Nelson), the BERNAMA NEWS AGENCY of Malaysia (from General Manager Ahmad Mustapha Hassan) and the KYODO NEWS AGENCY of Japan (from President Watanabe Takeji).

YONHAP President Appeals to OANA

SK130925 Seoul YONHAP in English 0744 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Seoul, Oct 13 (YONHAP)--the president-publisher of the South Korean news agency Thursday called on the world press to condemn the Oct 9 bombing in Rangoon, which killed 17 South Koreans, including 4 cabinet ministers, and wounded 14 other Koreans.

Chung Chong-shik, head of the privately owned YONHAP NEWS AGENCY, made his appeal in a message to the publishers of more than 20 members of the Organization of Asian-Pacific News Agencies (OANA).

The explosion, an "elaborately planned and organized crime of terrorism," took the life of one Korean photo journalist and injured eight other newsmen. Two of the wounded journalists--Choi Kum-yung, photo editor, and Kim Ki-sung, a reporter assigned to the presidential mansion--are YONHAP staff members.

The explosion's victims had gathered inside the mausoleum and were awaiting the arrival of South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan and the first lady for a wreath-laying ceremony to honor Burmese patriots. Chon was in Burma on the first leg of his five-nation tour of three southwest Asian and two Oceanic countries and brunei.

The messages text follows:

We appreciate your deep sympathy and sincere concern for those killed and injured in the Rangoon bomb blast on October 9, their families and all the people of the Republic of Korea.

As you have already learned from the news media, 17 South Koreans, including 4 cabinet ministers, died and 14 others were wounded in this barbarous act of the enemy of civilized people. This elaborately planned and organized crime of terrorism took the life of one journalist and wounded eight other newsmen.

We believe that the truth about this despicable crime reportedly committed by the North Korean communists should come to light, that it should be condemned by the world press, and that all peace-loving people should join in castigating the criminals.

Thank you for your steadfast support during this time of trial.

Bombing Victim's Body Arrives in Seoul

SK131129 Seoul YONHAP in English 1030 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Seoul, Oct 13 (YONHAP)--The body of Vice Minister Yi Ki-wuk who was critically injured in Sunday's bomb blast in the Burmese capital of Rangoon was flown to Seoul Thursday. Yi died early Thursday at a military hospital in the Clark U.S. Air Base in the Philippines after surgery for injuries there.

Yi's death brings to 17 the number of South Koreans killed in the explosion. Yi's remains, accompanied by his wife, Yun Kyong-hui who flew to Manila Tuesday to tend to her husband, were returned home Thursday afternoon aboard a special U.S. Air Force plane. When the plane landed at the Kimpo International Airport in Seoul, Yi's family members, South Korean officials including Prime Minister Kim Sang-hyop, and 400 mourners were on hand to meet the body.

Following the solemn airport ceremony, the body was moved by ambulance to the national cemetery in southern Seoul for burial.

Burmese Handling of Incident

SK140120 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 14 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Watching Burma's Moves"]

[Text] The nation grieved, and in a solemn funeral service yesterday, bid its last farewell to the victims of the Rangoon massacre. Left behind is the strong determination to address ourselves to deterring the recurrence of such a tragedy. The loss of the lives of outstanding men to an outrageous act of terrorism has made it imperative for all those with a conscience to preserve the decency of a civilized world.

As suspected from the outset, it has now become clear through uncovered evidence that the bomb blast in Rangoon Sunday was the work of communist North Korea. What is yet to be done is simply to give an official investigation account announcing Pyongyang's involvement in the savage attack, which claimed the lives of 17 people of this republic, including 4 cabinet ministers and wounded 15 others.

The finger points to North Korea as the batteries used for the remote-control explosion device, an unexploded bombshell and a remote-control signal transmitter have been discovered. Some 30 North Korean commandos were also said to have slipped into Burma before President Chon Tu-hwan arrived in Rangoon. Two terrorists, whom the Burmese authorities identify as "Koreans," were arrested while they were escaping to the sea where a North Korean vessel was apparently waiting for them off Rangoon. The ship, disguised as a merchant vessel, is said to have taken to Burma North Korean commandos camouflaged as technicians for a North Korean-built cast-iron refinery there.

It is well known that Burma has become a beachhead for North Korean terrorist activities in Southeast Asia. Its embassy in Rangoon has been used as an operation base. The North Korean communists must have attempted the assassination of President Chon in the belief that his death would surely lead to chaos in the republic.

Not a few countries have been subject to the maneuverings of North Korea blind to the realities within the world community. Unfortunately, Burma has been made to suffer such a recklessness. The Pyongyang communists gave no regard to the Burmese Government in pursuing their objectives.

It seems that the Rangoon government was not quite aware of Pyongyang's characteristic heinousness. As a result, it failed to insure the safety and the security of the Korean presidential entourage. The consequences are enormous and Rangoon can hardly shun its responsibility. The Rangoon government is now compelled out of a sense of regret and responsibility to carry out a thorough and just investigation and to make its result known clearly to the world.

Burmese Foreign Minister U Chit Hlaing was reported to have said that his government is resolved to take resolute measures if its sovereignty is violated.

He was further said to have stressed that it is more than natural for his government to take strong diplomatic action against whatever country turns out to have masterminded the incident.

We are inclined to translate the words "strong diplomatic action" to mean the severance of diplomatic relations. Either in view of the magnitude and impact of the bombing, the first of its kind anywhere else on earth, or from the standpoint of discouraging the recurrence of such barbarity, the Burmese Government is called upon to act appropriately and resolutely in conforming to the norms of international society. It would be the way for Rangoon to prove its sincerity as well as to contribute toward sustaining decency in the international environment.

We are interested in keeping our friendship with Burma in spite of the tragic incident. Yet, the future of our relations will depend on how Rangoon handles the incident. The Pyongyang regime, on the other hand, will likely step up its terrorist activities. For our part, we should intensify our strength and alertness against any eventualities by maintaining our national unity.

CSO: 4100/013

S. KOREA/FOREIGN RELATIONS

REPORTAGE ON SEOUL IPU CONFERENCE

Delegates Discuss Youth Employment

SK070143 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] The delegates of the Inter-Parliamentary Union debated youth employment, particularly in the developing countries, including the role of education and training, during the third-day plenary session at the National Assembly yesterday.

They stressed that vocational training should be comprehensive, and training policies should be carefully designed to meet the emerging needs of the expanding sectors of the economy.

More than 30 delegates of the Union delivered speeches on the topic which was one of the agenda items for the conference.

Bruce Halliday of Canada said, "The industrialized and developing countries in every region of the world have experienced dramatic increases in the number of unemployed youths, well educated and undereducated, skilled and unskilled, rural and urban, male and female."

Horst Govrecht of West Germany dubbed the topic one of the tragedies of the day, saying that young people who desperately want to get out of poverty are now impeded by the social conditions in the countries where they live.

Saroj Khaparde of India appealed that the union should take daring steps during the Seoul conference so that the sizzling problems of youth unemployment in the developing countries can be reduced, if not totally wiped out.

Yi Yas-sop of Korea said that the diminished promise of educational credentials makes planning for a predictable outcome in the labor market increasingly difficult.

"Thus, the dynamic hope of youth employment has been gradually replaced by anxiety, even by apathy, as young people believe that they have lost control over the consequences of their own efforts," he added.

Increase in Female Participants Urged

SK070303 Seoul YONHAP in English 0239 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] Seoul, Oct 7 (YONHAP)--Lawmakers attending the 70th Annual Inter-Parliamentary Conference Thursday deliberated youth employment and the role of education and training. The representatives from 73 countries expressed deep concern about the increase in unemployment among youths in many industrialized and developing countries.

To this end, IPU delegates, during the third-day session, called for governments to create jobs.

Norway's Reidar Due called for the creation of a specialized UN agency to cope with the situation.

Saroj Khaparde of India said the union should take daring steps during the Seoul conference so the problem of youth unemployment in the developing countries can be addressed.

South Korea's Yi Tae-sop underlined the importance of professional training, saying that South Korea's remarkable economic growth originated from well-trained manpower.

Women legislators participating in the meeting of the world lawmakers' body held their first informal meeting Thursday at a luncheon hosted by eight Korean female members of the National Assembly. During the gathering, the women parliamentarians agreed to present to the conference a resolution calling on national assemblies to increase the number of women participants to the IPU.

They also discussed ways of sharing more seats in their home national assemblies and agreed to hold seminars on that matter.

Controversy Over Agenda Items Arises

SK080035 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 8 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] A controversy over the admissibility as agenda items of such matters as the situations in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Kampuchea highlighted the fourth-day session of the Inter-Parliamentary conference yesterday. The controversy started when it was revealed that the steering committee of the union sought to delete those matters from the agenda.

The members of the committee decided in a meeting Thursday that they were outside the scope of the agenda items. But the delegates from the United Kingdom, Sudan, Morocco, India, Jordan, and Kuwait demanded that those matters should be dealt with in the plenary session. During the session, more than 40 delegates delivered speeches on colonial territories and ethnic questions.

Shri Rasheed Masood of India said, "Discrimination between human beings on the grounds of race, color or ethnic origin is not only an offense to human dignity but also a serious obstacle to friendly and peaceful relations among nations.

He hoped that all multiethnic states of the world would strive persistently to root out the monstrous evil of apartheid and put an end to the cancerous growth of ethnic violence.

Delegates Debate UN Trade Program

SK090655 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] The delegates of the Inter-Parliamentary Union discussed the program of action and the resolutions adopted by the UN Conference on Trade and Development concerning the establishment of a new international economic order during a plenary session at the national economic order during a plenary session at the National Assembly yesterday.

The union delegates expressed their deep concern that the lack of real progress in negotiations between developed and developing countries has led to a considerable worsening economic situation in developing countries. They stressed that governments and parliaments in developing countries should support the elaboration of a joint strategy for economic and social development and the establishment of south-south cooperation.

During the plenary session, more than 40 delegates of the union delivered speeches on the contribution of parliaments to the adoption of concrete measures by the United Nations for a new international economic order.

Shri Xavier Arakal of India said that the North-South dialogue and various discussions at other international fora are aimed at finding ways and means of achieving a more equitable economic order among nations.

"But despite their efforts, developing countries are facing a critical situation due to mounting debt burdens, and the uncertainty of maintaining even the existing flow of resources."

Rep Chong Sun-ho of Korea said that the ever-rising tide of protectionism in developed countries has become a real threat to economic growth in developing countries. He urged that every nation in the world lift its trade barriers to accelerate economic development and to create an order. Then, he said, "We are here to urge every nation to open their trade barriers because we believe in free trade. If Korea had not opened its door, the economic growth we have enjoyed so far could not have been realized here."

"I believe the same is true to every country. China has begun to open up its doors and sharing our feelings in this regard," he said. He went on, "We are paying a great deal of attention to their recent economic performance and look forward to their role in Asia. Therefore I think IPU must pay attention to their recent announcement on Soviet missile deployment in Asia. I hope some day in the near future our North Korean brothers will follow China," he added.

Female Members Seek To Establish Association

SK090659 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Some 30 women parliamentarians from 21 countries attending the Seoul IPU conference are seeking to establish "Inter-Parliamentary Women's Association" within the umbrella of the IPU.

They have decided to promote the creation of the body to "enhance the participation and activity of women lawmakers in the IPU in light of the ever-increasing role of women in the international community," according to Rep Kim Hyon-cha of Korea. She said that their plan to set up the association was explained yesterday to Pio-Carlo Terenzio, IPU secretary general, in a document signed by four representatives including her.

Other representatives are Dr Fatima A. Mahmoud of Sudan, Miss Saroj Khaparde of India and Mrs Margaret Shields of New Zealand.

The paper conveyed to the IPU secretary general said, "The women parliamentarians attending the Seoul forum felt that the statutes of the IPU and in particular Article 1 of the statutes, contain the idea of establishing an Inter-Parliamentary Women's Association within the umbrella of the IPU."

"We hereby convey that our discussions have resulted in the formation of the said association within the IPU," it said.

A preparatory committee is being constituted with a view to finalizing the memorandum of the association and the names of the committee members will be communicated in due course to the IPU secretariat, it also said.

The woman lawmakers' preliminary meeting to discuss the creation of their own group was also attended by Terenzio, according to Rep Kim.

Rangoon Incident

SK110211 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Speaker Chae Mun-sik said that the 70th conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union will be continued as scheduled despite the explosion of bomb in Rangoon which killed 4 ministers and 12 others accompanying President Chon Tu-hwan on his state visit to Burma.

The speaker requested Sunday that union delegates cooperate to make the conference successful, remembering that there are no security problems in Korea.

In the meantime, Emile Cuvelier of Belgium, acting president of the IPU, and Piocarlo Terenzio, secretary general of the union, expressed their condolence to President Chon Tu-hwan, and the Korean Government and people for the loss of leading Korean cabinet members and others in the explosion incident in Rangoon, Burma.

Committee Chooses ROK-Proposed Agenda

SK111359 Seoul YONHAP in English 1238 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Seoul, Oct 11 (YONHAP)--A committee meeting of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) Tuesday chose a South Korea-proposed agenda item on separated families as the first subject to be discussed at the 1984 IPU's conference.

The committee on parliamentary, juridical and human rights questions met Tuesday and agreed on a compromise between the South Korean proposal and the West German delegation's idea on "the contribution of the parliament to the promotion of human rights." Entitled "The Contribution of Parliament to the Promotion of Human Rights With Special Regard to the Necessity of an Urgent Search for Ways Toward Reunion of Tens of Thousands of Families Separated by War or Other Disasters," the agenda item is subject to the final decision of the executive committee meeting scheduled for Thursday.

Earlier Tuesday, the committee adopted a resolution on civil aviation safety which "deeply deplores the brutal destruction of a Korean Air Lines aircraft on Sept 1 by a Soviet fighter."

Lawmakers from 73 nations are attending the Seoul conference of the world parliamentarians' body, which is being boycotted by the Soviet Union, its East European allies and North Korea.

Conference 'Successful'

SK110219 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 Oct 83 p 4

[Text] Rep. Oh Se-ung, minister of state for political affairs and a member of the Korean delegation to the 70th Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Seoul, said that the Seoul forum has been successful in spite of the nonparticipation of the Soviet Union and some Eastern European communist nations.

He said, "Opinion around the Seoul meeting, if I am correct, is very positive, and I am very happy to have this successful conference despite the KAL incident."

The veteran lawmaker, now seeking a seat in the IPU Executive Committee for the first time in Korean IPU history, stressed that the Seoul organizing committee really did do its best to have the communist bloc attend the Seoul session. He said: "After the Helsinki Council meeting in April reaffirmed Seoul as the site of the 70th conference, I did worry about the possibility of communist countries' nonparticipation. However, Hungary and Mongolia had sent lists of their delegates and specified the names of hotels in which they desired to stay. When we received their letters in the middle of August, we thought we had a bright prospect for the Seoul gathering. But, things were going badly for the conference, after the KAL incident, because of the tension built by the incident."

Under this circumstance, he traveled to Europe before the opening of the Seoul forum to insure the security of all delegates in Seoul. In particular, he conveyed messages through Pio-carlo Terenzio, secretary general of the IPU, to the Soviet Union and East European communist countries.

The message agreed on between Oh and Terenzio on Sept 9 in Geneva said: "There will be no connection made between the KAL incident and the 70th conference of IPU. The responsible Korean authorities will keep the two matters completely separate. The attitude of the responsible Korean authorities towards the USSR delegation remains unchanged and all the usual courtesies will be extended to it.

"The security of the USSR delegation to the conference will be fully guaranteed. The USSR delegation will be protected against any hostile gesture or demonstrations."

It also said, despite certain rumors, Minister Oh confirms that it is out of the question that visas will not be granted to the USSR delegation. He said that he was informed by his friends in the IPU who had close contacts with the Soviet Union that they (Soviet Union) received the message very well.

Referring to the Executive Committee members' election tomorrow, he said, "After I joined the cabinet last May, I was not going to go back to the IPU forum. But I went to Helsinki to defend the Rome decision on Seoul as a venue, being one of the most experienced IPU members in Korea," he said.

"I think that my candidacy is our assembly's choice because of my experiences and acquaintances within the IPU," he said. "I am firmly determined to fulfill my duty, if elected, as executive member of the world organization, at the cost of any cabinet post," he declared.

ROK Daily Appraises Conference

SK140204 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "IPU Role for Peace"]

[Text] The Seoul conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) was influenced by a major international incident even before the delegates began to assemble here. Just about a month preceding the conference's opening, a Korean Air Lines plane was shot down by the Soviet Union, killing all of the 269 passengers and crew members aboard. This stunning tragedy has upset the world community and subsequently resulted in the absence of delegations from the discredited Soviet Union and other communist states at the Seoul gathering, despite prior notices of participation filed by some of them.

And, at the height of the 12-day conference of the world parliamentarians, another shocking incident took place in the Burmese capital of Rangoon earlier this week, in which 17 Koreans, including 4 cabinet members, lost their lives and 15 others were injured by a bomb explosion while accompanying President Chon Tu-hwan on his state visit there.

What was alarming was that the powerful explosive, believed to have been set by North Korean agents, was obviously aimed at the life of the president, who narrowly escaped the blast due to his late arrival on the scene by only a few minutes.

These incidents were indeed horrifying and also pointing to the danger international terrorism holds not only for Koreans, but also for all other peace-loving peoples across the world.

Though the tragic occurrences were coincidental to their meetings here, the IPU delegates from about 70 countries must have shared the universal grief and outrage acutely, since they could witness on the scene how the Koreans, the principal victims of the incidents, have reacted.

Accordingly, the world parliamentarians have adopted a special resolution on the safety of air traffic, prompted by the Soviet attack on the KAL passenger plane, and a harshly-worded statement condemning the murderous act in Rangoon.

These were among the remarkable achievements of the parliamentarians at their conference here, which closed yesterday. The delegates also adopted resolutions, including one on ways and means of strengthening the United Nations' functioning, and moreover developed constructive debates on a number of international issues, ranging from decolonization to youth employment.

By all accounts, the Seoul conference was a success in pursuing the IPU aims of advancing international peace and cooperation.

The gathering was particularly meaningful in that it took place in a divided country which is making every possible effort for national unification, yet is often beset by wanton provocations as highlighted by recent incidents.

While the inter-Korean question is something that ought to be settled by Koreans themselves, there is no denying that the issue is intertwined with international politics.

In this regard, foreign delegates to the IPU conference here are hoped to have grasped a better picture of the stark and intricate reality of the Korean peninsula, a perception that could be useful in facilitating a settlement of the Korean question from international perspectives.

And it should be stressed that Seoul's approach to this impending task is to promote national dynamism to build an industrialized democracy, and consequently to achieve unification by peaceful and realistic means, even in the face of such intolerable provocations as the latest incidents.

CSO: 4100/013

S. KOREA/FOREIGN RELATIONS

BRIEFS

CALL ON DEVELOPING NATIONS--New York, Oct 7 (YONHAP)--Speaking before a group of 17 UN ministers, Korean Ambassador to the World Body Kim Kyong-won called on developing nations to band together to overcome the worldwide economic slump. "In the face of the grim outlook for the world economy, my government finds it imperative that developing countries devise a more dynamic program of action for collective self-reliance," the Korean ambassador at the United Nations said. "Economic cooperation among developing countries can contribute substantially to the common interests of the developing nations as a whole and strengthen our collective bargaining position in the dialogue with the north," he said. He also said the Korean Government has strong faith in the so-called "south-south" cooperation. A new impetus was given to this policy when Korea set up the Overseas Cooperation Council, as a government agency last year, he said. [Text] [SK080714 Seoul YONHAP in English 0659 GMT 8 Oct 83]

CSO: 4100/013

S. KOREA/FOREIGN TRADE

BRIEFS

REQUEST FOR IMPORT LIBERALIZATION--Seoul, Oct 8 (YONHAP)--The United States has recently asked South Korea to liberalize the import of passenger cars, cosmetics and 30 other items from the United States to help redress the trade imbalance now in disfavor of the United States, a government source said here Saturday. The demand was conveyed to the Korean Government through the U.S. Embassy. The U.S. administration demanded that restrictions be lifted from 32 items and called on the Korean Government to take "sincere steps" in the shortest possible date, the source said. Except for cars and cosmetics, the other items include personal computers, carpets, toilet soaps, cabinet-style refrigerators, small-sized speakers, glassware, 16-mm cameras, engine bearings, construction equipment, some machine tools, beef tallow, lemons, almonds, eggs, silicon steel plates, automobile batteries and powdered ice cream. [Text] [SK081307 Seoul YONHAP in English 1249 GMT 8 Oct 83]

CSO: 4100/013

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